

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

Thursday, July 16, 1998/Asadha 25, 1920 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 422 . Shri Pradeep Kumar Yadav.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make a submission about the question.

MR. SPEAKER : No, please take your seat.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Sir, kindly permit me. Today, I have got no.1 in the ballot.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the time to seek clarification. Please take your seat.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Sir, I gave in writing also in the morning. It is the right of the Member. If we get no.1 in the draw, then there is no reason why our question should not appear in the list.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jain, please take your seat.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Sir, let me know the reason as to why my question has not come today. My name was no.1 in the ballot for today. If I get no.1 in the draw of lot, there must be some reason as to why my name is not appearing in the Question List. I have given in writing also about this matter.

MR. SPEAKER : You can discuss with me in my chamber.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Sir, I met you and also I have given in writing. What is my fault ? The office should be fair to all the Members. If I get no.1 in the draw of lot, why should I be denied the opportunity ?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the hon. Member says is right. I have also had similar experience. The question which I got in the ballot did not appear in the Question List.

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Kurien, you can discuss with me in my chamber. Please take your seat.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Sir, this is a serious matter. If we get no.1 in the draw of lot, why should our question be deleted ? The office should be fair to all the Members.

MR. SPEAKER : I can discuss with you in my chamber. Please take your seat.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, these things are sacrosanct. If a question has come in the ballot, it should come in the Question List. There is something wrong going on here. The priority of questions are manipulated and those questions which have come in the ballot are not appearing in the Question List. I subscribe to what the hon. Member said. He is correct.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also support it.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

#### Scheme to Clean Rainy Water

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\*422. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :  
SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating any scheme to store the rainy water and use it for drinking and irrigation purposes;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) If not, the reasons therefor ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

Rural Water Supply is a state subject and the State Governments are charged with responsibilities for providing safe drinking water supply to all the villages/habitations. The Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) in the Department of Rural Development supplements their efforts financially and otherwise, inter alia through the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).

As part of the programme, the Mission has been advising the states to harness and conserve rain water through appropriate harvesting techniques in those areas with inadequate surface or ground water resources inter alia using funds made available by the Mission and under allied programmes of the Ministry like JRY & EAS. Prior to 1.4.98, funds, amounting to about Rs. 31 crore

were released to 17 states under the Sub-Mission on Sustainability to enable the States Government to undertake scheme relating to water harvesting. With effect from 1.4.98, full powers to plan, implement and monitor all Rural Water Supply projects, including those related to water harvesting, have been delegated to the State Governments. As such no new scheme in this regard is being contemplated by this Ministry.

[Translation]

SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water mission in one of the schemes of the Government. The Central Government contributes 75 per cent of the total amount within scheme and the remaining amount of 25 per cent is contributed by the State Government. I would like to ask as to why this scheme has been totally left in the hand of the State Government. I would also like to ask about the role of the MPs in such schemes particularly when the amount under this Mission for installing handpumps etc. or facing the emergent problems is given to MLA and nothing goes in the hands of MPs because MLAs are required to get installed 25 or 50 pumps with this amount.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, drinking water is a State subject. The State plan, implement and monitor the water supply schemes and we, the Government of India, assist the State Governments in providing drinking water to rural areas. With effect from 1.4.98, the full powers of the Rajiv Gandhi Technology Mission have been delegated to the State Governments and we have written letters to all the Chief Secretaries to take suggestions and recommendations from Members of Parliament regarding drinking water supply schemes.

[Translation]

SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR : My second supplementary is, when the whole amount under Jawahar Rojgar Yojna and Assured Employment Scheme is spent through D.M. then is it not necessary to seek suggestions from Members of Parliament in these cases and whether some instructions are being issued by the Government in this regard so that the approval of MPs may be recognised as on consultation is being done with MPs.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : We are issuing instructions.

[English]

I have written letters to all the Chief Secretaries to take suggestions and recommendations for Members of Parliament. . . (Interruptions) No State has responded.

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to seek your support. There are two parts of my question—

in the first part, it was asked the way in which the facility of water for irrigation and potable water would be provided and in the second part, it was asked the way in which that water was being accumulated or stored my intention is that the rain water is going waste. By properly utilising this rain water and properly store it the water level can be raised and used it for irrigation and drinking purpose. If the hon. Minister conducts a survey in the whole country particularly in Uttar Pradesh, it will be find out that the water level of has gone down by three meter in UP and all type of potable water facilities have failed there. Hon. Pradeepji has told that facilities of potable water have been provided under JRY, E.E.S., R.E.S. and Minimum Needs Programme and whatever handpumps are bored under these schemes, there are no say of Members of Parliament in these scheme. 25 taps are given to each M.L.A. but nothing to us. I would like to know whether the Government of India propose to formulate any long-term scheme to raise the water level where it has gone down in the whole country particularly in Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : I appreciate the concern of the Member. If we neglect this problem to re-charging the ground water level, we have to import water in a few years from now. So, we have taken up the watershed programme from this year. We have written letters to all the State Governments to take up these re-charging programmes under E.A.S. The first instalment for E.A.S. has been released specifically saying that they have to take up the check dams, nullah bunds and water harvesting structures under this scheme.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Sir, I am really sorry to say that while replying to the question, the Minister has only mentioned about the States. He has forgotten that there are Union Territories also in the Union of India.

Sir, in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, scattered islands are there. I would particularly like to mention the name of Char Island where 100 per cent population is tribal. There is an acute shortage of water. Only rain water can be retained there and it can be supplied. This year, there was so much water shortage, that water had to be carried from other islands.

But when the Minister says that all the responsibilities are given to the States, then what about the Union Territories ? It is the domain of the Central Government. It has to do it. What action have you taken to provide money to the Union Territories for storing rain water in areas like Char Island ?

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : If the hon. Member gives a specific notice, I will answer.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the coastal areas in Karnataka, especially, the Districts of Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada, received the highest rainfall in the State. But the water flows over to the Arabian Sea during rainy seasons. The water retention power of the soil is also the lowest in that area. Due to this, a lot of difficulties are being faced by the citizens for drinking purposes and also for irrigation purposes. Is the Government intending to implement any programme so that enough water is made available for drinking and irrigation purposes especially during non-rainy season ?

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : The farmers are digging borewells everyday and the ground water level is going down and down. Unless we regulate by legislation, water cannot be restored. So, we have prepared a model legislation and we have asked the State Governments to adopt that model legislation.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : What are the details? How the Government intends to tackle the problem ?

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : If the hon. Member asks a separate question, I will answer that.

MR. SPEAKER : You can send it to the hon. Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask from the Minister through you as to how much amount you have sanctioned to U.P. under this scheme because you have sanctioned Rs. 31 crore for storing water for irrigation and drinking purposes in 17 states, as we live of National drinking water mission of the Government of India and Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Rapid Scheme. Secondly, whether the opinions of the Members of Parliament are being taken or not ? Thirdly, whether you propose or likely to be proposed to provide potable water for SCs colonies ?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : The answer has already been given. About Rs. 31 crore have been given to 17 states.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : How much amount you have given to U.P. ?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : I will give the information for Uttar Pradesh.

MR. SPEAKER : If the information is not readily available, you can supply it later to the hon. Member.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : It has been provided. I am having the information.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister is not fully prepared. . . . (Interruptions) the Minister should be fully prepared and give information.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. The hon. Minister is replying.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : An amount of Rs. 146 lakh has been given to Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. hon. Minister. It is the largest state of the country, Rs. 146 lakh is insufficient.

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : It is for rain water harvesting structure. It is only for that purpose.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Have you any scheme for SCs colonies ?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : We are not having information for that.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a question which is very important for West Bengal. We have this problem of arsenic in half of the districts of West Bengal because of excessive ground water exploitation. If rain water is collected, maintained and distributed, it would be very good for us. There is a good approach to this problem which will be employment-oriented and community-based. Will the Government make a scheme where the villagers will themselves maintain the rain water that collects in pools and lakes and also take the responsibility of distributing it ? In that case, you can also generate some employment among the landless poor.

Will the Government make a scheme so that the rain water can be used ? What is the use of just collecting it if you do not have a scheme ? How to use it ? If you just say that it is a State subject and shirk your responsibility, that does not help. Please have a good scheme which will be community-based. Would you have a scheme which will store and distribute rain water and give employment also to the landless peasants ? That is my question.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : Hon. Member's suggestion will be looked into. But the Government of India is not

having a scheme. We are only assisting the State Governments by giving financial assistance.

[Translation]

MAJOR GENERAL BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI  
AVSM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are discussing on rain water harvesting.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot accommodate all the hon. Members Please understand it.

[Translation]

MAJOR GENERAL BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI  
AVSM : There are severe crisis of potable water in the hilly areas in spite of flowing ganga-yamuna river. Rain water harvesting scheme is a very useful. Hon. Minister has said that everything would be done by the state. I want to know through you whether any such scheme has been given to research centre at central level so that it may provide economically viable scheme to store water of rivers and drains of hilly areas under rain water harvesting scheme. There is a Govind Vallabh Pant University in Uttar Pradesh. Such type of a scheme was made by Govind Vallabh Pant survey centre, Ranikhet. According to this, water can be stored by spending only Rs. 12-15 thousand. I would like to know whether you have got any research conducted or have assigned any task to anyone so that it may formulate a scheme for utilizing the rain water harvesting particularly in hilly areas.

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : We are making some excesses to club all those programme under different Ministries in order to have some watershed programme from this year. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very sorry to say that Mr. Minister has not given the reply seriously. A large tank has been constructed for storing rainy water under rain water harvesting scheme and it is very costly. The amount allotted to JRY has never been sufficient and in future also it will not be sufficient. The D.P.A.P. was started by the Congress Government to implement the scheme. Rs. 10 crore was to be sent to those selected districts under that plan. These districts are of Rajasthan Madhya Pradesh and other states. The D.P.A.P. Scheme was started by the Congress Government.

[English]

The D.P.A.P. Scheme was started by the Congress Government.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lakshman Singh, you put your question, please.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh) : If you send the amount of D.P.A.P. to State Governments. The waste related to rain water harvesting can be done under this. Thus the amount will be sufficient and this problem can be solved. Will you send the amount of D.P.A.P. to states so that the task of rain water harvesting can be done.

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : We will take note of the suggestion of the hon. Member. We will instruct the State Government to take up such programmes under D.P.A.P.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : The Scheme is already there. You have to provide funds. . . .(Interruptions) The D.P.A.P. Scheme is already there. You have to provide funds so that work can be carried out. Are you going to give funds to the States ? Are you aware of the D.P.A.P. Scheme? That is my question. I do not think you are aware of it. . . .(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : It was started by the Congress Government.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, would you like to respond ?

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : Yes, the D.P.A.P. Programme is also implemented by the State Governments.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : The D.P.A.P. Scheme is implemented by the State Governments. It is a Central Government Scheme. Funds have to be provided to the State Governments. Are you going to provide funds to the State Governments so that rain water harvesting work can be taken up ? That is my question. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Q. 423. Shri Chandu Lal Ajmeera.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that I cannot accommodate every hon. Member. Shri Rajesh Pilot, if the House is interested, I have no objection to have a Half-an-Hour discussion on this subject.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Let the hon. Minister agree to it.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, are you agreeing to have a Half-an-Hour discussion on this subject ?

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL : All right, Sir.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Will it be discussed in this Session ?

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, it will be discussed in this Session.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this should be discussed soon. . . . (Interruptions) It should not be taken up for discussion later on.

MR. SPEAKER : You sit down please, the time has been allotted on this.

### Railway Projects

\*423. SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of projects proposed by the Railways from 1992-93 to 1996-97 and the anticipated cost thereof;

(b) the manner in which the Railways propose to finance these projects; and

(c) the progress made in the projects so far, project-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) to (c) The undermentioned projects are financed through Railways internal resources and budgetary support from the General Exchequer. The details of the projects are as under :

Sl. No.	Year of Inclusion	Name of Work	Cost in CRS.	Progress
1	2	3	4	5
<b>New Lines</b>				
1.	1992-93	Dudhnoi - Depa	22.33	There is a problem in land acquisition by State Govt. The work would be completed within two years of land being made available.
2.	1993-94	Amravati - Narkhed	175	Earthwork is in progress in 18 out of 27 sections. The contracts for major and minor bridges have been finalised. Earthwork in the remaining 9 sections would not be started since adequate resources are available.
3.	1993-94	Peddapalli - Nizamabad	261	The work is being done in two phases. In the first phase Peddapalli to Karimnagar has been taken up. Earthwork and bridges is in progress and would be completed in 1999-2000 subject to availability of resources. The FLS* for 2nd phase for Karimnagar to Nizamabad has been completed but the work would be taken up after completing the first phase.
4.	1993-94	Lanjigarh - Junagarh	100	623 hectares of land out of a total of 1220 hectares has been received from Lanjigarh to Bhavanipatna and earthwork and bridges work in this stretch has been taken up.
5.	1994-95	Udhampur - Srinagar	2500	This is a national project. Land acquisition papers have been submitted to the State Government for Udhampur-Katra section. The work has been taken up wherever land is made

\*FLS - Final Location Survey